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**Financial Aid and  
Business Office  
Professionals: Tuition  
Incentive Program-3rd  
Quarter Bills**

Third quarter TIP bills MUST be submitted on the [SSS Excel form](#). Any bill received that is not on the excel form will be returned and may delay payment. If you attempted to use this form for previous payments, and it did not work correctly, please know that the technical issue was resolved.

**High School Counselors:**

**Student Financial Services Bureau:  
Monthly E-Newsletter-March 2015**

## Money Smart Week

Created by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago in 2002, Money Smart Week is a public awareness campaign designed to help consumers better manage their personal finances. This is achieved through coordinated effort and collaboration between many organizations across the country. Programming is offered at all demographics and income levels and covers all facets of personal finance. Money Smart Week is April 18-25. Here is a [listing of events](#) in Michigan.

A new activity featured this year for Money Smart Week is GeoCache for College Cash. This activity is based on the popular outdoor geocaching concept, a scavenger-hunt type game. Instead of locating and taking objects, players leave proof they found information—about personal finance topics every college student should understand. Posters will be displayed throughout Michigan college campuses for students to scan using QR codes. Participants can enter into scholarship drawings and a chance to win an iPad, sponsored by the Student Financial Services Bureau.



**Student Financial Services**

## Michigan Competitive Scholarship Qualifying Students

Please remind 2015 graduating students to make sure their ACT record has been activated by contacting SSG and providing their Social Security number. This is required in order for their qualifying ACT score to match with the student FAFSA results; which is used as the application for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship award.

## Upcoming Events

Outreach staff will be at these upcoming events. If you have questions about these events (including times, specific locations, topics covered, etc.) please contact Shannon Price at [PriceS4@michigan.gov](mailto:PriceS4@michigan.gov).

### March 17 6:30pm-8:30pm

Romeo Engineering and Technology Center College Fair  
62300 Jewell Rd.  
Washington, MI 48094

### March 19 9:00am-11:00am

MOISD College Fair  
805 Campus Drive  
Big Rapids, MI 49307

### March 19 5:00pm-7:00pm

KEYS night at Muskegon  
DHS/TIP Presentation  
2700 Baker St.  
Muskegon, MI 49444

### March 20 9:00am-11:00am

Mid-Michigan Community College Fair  
1375 S. Clare Ave.  
Harrison, MI 48625

### March 26 5:00pm-7:00pm

Arts and Technology Academy of Pontiac Spring College Fair  
888 Enterprise  
Pontiac, MI 48341

### March 30 6:00pm-8:00pm

National College Fair-Metro

## Bureau Webinar

The Student Financial Services Bureau is partnering with EduGuide to offer the webinar **Getting Grit: Research and Strategies to Build Student Persistence in Middle, High School and College** will be held on **March 25, 2015 at 2:00 PM EDT**. [Registration](#) is now available.

Grit, the measurable ability to focus on long-term goals and overcome obstacles along the way, has been shown to be a better predictor of student success than IQ. EduGuide founder, Bryan Taylor, will explain the research and share an evidence-based model that they've developed with the support of the Kellogg Foundation to help schools and colleges build student grit and lift achievement. EduGuide is a national award-winning nonprofit specializing in research and tools that thousands of programs have used to guide more than one million people to take measurable steps toward success.

If you missed our previous webinars, they are available on our [Web site](#). To highlight April as Financial Literacy Month, we are pleased to partner with Michigan Jump\$tart Coalition to discuss improving financial literacy for Michigan's children and youth, an overview of resources and information, and why financial literacy is important. Michigan Jump\$tart Coalition Chair James Studinger, who is also author of *Wealth Is a Choice*, and owner of JPStudinger Group, a wealth-management company, will present on Michigan's financial literacy efforts. This webinar will take place on **Thursday, April 30 at 2:00 PM EDT**. Registration information will be available in April.

## LAFCU Scholarship Opportunity

LAFCU is awarding two \$2,500 scholarships along with a \$500 donation to a local charity. This annual essay contest offers high school seniors within the areas of Barry, Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Gratiot, Ionia, Ingham, Jackson, Livingston, Montcalm or Shiawassee counties, the opportunity to submit an essay for a chance to win a college scholarship to Lansing Community College or Baker College of Owosso. [Application](#) information is available on the LAFCU Web site.

Detroit  
Suburban Collection Showplace  
46100 Grand River Ave  
Novi, MI 48374

**March 31 8:30am-12:00pm**

National College Fair-Metro  
Detroit  
Suburban Collection Showplace  
46100 Grand River Ave  
Novi, MI 48374



Michigan Education Savings Program

## **MESP Ranked 3rd Best Investment Plan**

The Michigan Education Savings Program (MESP) produced the third-best investment performance among all direct-sold 529 college savings plans nationwide in 2014, according to SavingForCollege.com.

MESP also achieved the eighth-best three-year performance and seventh-ranked five-year performance, the Web site determined.

SavingForCollege.com is an independent company that aims to help consumers and professional advisers better understand the challenge of paying higher education costs.